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Response to Office Action Dated 12/08/2003

In the Claims

Please amend claims to the present application as set forth below. A detailed listing of all claims has been provided. A status identifier is provided for each claim in a parenthetical expression following each claim number.

Claims 1—80 were originally filed.

No claims are canceled.

Claims 1—2, 5, 18, 26, 32, 34, 35, 38, 42, 44, 47—48, 57, 59, 60, 63, 69, 74, 78 and 80 are currently amended.

Dependent claims 81 and 82 are newly added.

Accordingly, claims 1—82 are pending.

1. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
presenting a free floating field in line with text in a document, the free floating field presenting content derived from a source; and
upon modification of the source, automatically updating the content in the free floating field. field; and
wherein the free floating field and the source are in a nested relationship.

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1 2. (Currently Amended.) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein the document is~~
2 ~~written in a markup language. A method comprising:~~
3 presenting a free floating field in line with text in a document, the free
4 floating field presenting content derived from a source;
5 upon modification of the source, automatically updating the content in the
6 free floating field; and
7 wherein the document is written in a markup language.

8

9 3. (Original.) The method of claim 1, wherein the source is text and the free
10 floating field presents the text.

11

12 4. (Original.) The method of claim 1, wherein the source is a data value and
13 the free floating field presents the data value.

14

15 5. (Currently Amended.) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the source resides~~
16 ~~separate from the free floating field and the free floating field presents~~
17 content derived from referencing the source.

18

19 6. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
20 presenting a table containing multiple cells in which one cell is the source;
21 and
22 upon modification of the cell, automatically updating the content in the free
23 floating field.

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1 7. (Original.) The method of claim 1, wherein the free floating field is a first
2 free floating field, the method further comprising:
3 presenting a second free floating field, the second free floating field
4 presenting content derived from referencing the first free floating
5 field; and
6 upon modification of the source, automatically updating the contents in the
7 first and second free floating fields.

8

9 8. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising overlaying a
10 formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a
11 formula into the free floating field.

12

13 9. (Original.) The method of claim 8, further comprising resizing the formula
14 edit box as the user enters the formula.

15

16 10. (Original.) The method of claim 8, further comprising extending the
17 formula edit box horizontally and subsequently vertically as the user enters
18 the formula.

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- 1 11. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 creating a cell structure in association with the free floating field, the cell
3 structure holding one of a formula or data used in the free floating
4 field; and
5 creating a format structure in association with the free floating field, the
6 format structure holding formatting information for the free floating
7 field.
- 8
9 12. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising formatting the free
10 floating field independently of the text.
- 11
12 13. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising modifying a format
13 of the text and automatically applying the format modification to the free
14 floating field.
- 15
16 14. (Original.) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
17 determining, upon selection of the free floating field, a type of content in
18 the free floating field; and
19 interpreting user entry based upon the type of content in the free floating
20 field.

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15. (Original.) The method of claim 14, wherein the determining comprises:
evaluating whether the type of content is a formula or non-text data;
if the type of content is a formula or non-text data, interpreting the user
entry as applicable to spreadsheet functions; and
if the type of content is not a formula or non-text data, interpreting the user
entry as applicable to word processing functions.
16. (Original.) The method of claim 14, wherein the determining comprises:
evaluating whether the type of content is a formula;
if the type of content is a formula, highlighting all of the formula and
allowing editing in a formula edit box; and
if the type of content is not a formula, placing a cursor in the free floating
field.
17. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
method as recited in claim 1.
18. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
inserting nesting a free floating field within a table text in a document;
enabling a user to enter a formula into the free floating field; and
automatically recalculating the formula in the free floating field.

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1 19. (Original.) The method of claim 18, wherein the enabling comprises
2 overlays a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user
3 entry of the formula into the free floating field.

4

5 20. (Original.) The method of claim 19, further comprising resizing the
6 formula edit box as the user enters the formula.

7

8 21. (Original.) The method of claim 19, further comprising extending the
9 formula edit box horizontally and subsequently vertically as the user enters
10 the formula.

11

12 22. (Original.) The method of claim 18, further comprising inserting a table
13 that contains multiple cells, wherein the data value resides in one cell of the
14 table so that upon modification of the data value in the cell, the formula in
15 the free floating field is automatically recalculated.

16

17 23. (Original.) The method of claim 18, wherein the free floating field is a first
18 free floating field and the formula is a first formula, the method further
19 comprising:
20 inserting a second free floating field;
21 enabling the user to enter a second formula into the second free floating
22 field, the second formula referencing the first free floating field; and
23 upon modification of the data value, the first and second formulas in the
24 first and second free floating fields are automatically recalculated.

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2 24. (Original.) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
3 creating a cell structure in association with the free floating field, the cell
4 structure holding the formula; and
5 creating a format structure in association with the free floating field, the
6 format structure holding formatting information for the free floating
7 field.

8
9 25. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
10 instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
11 method as recited in claim 18.

12
13 26. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
14 presenting a free floating field in line with text in a table; and
15 overlaying a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user
16 entry of a formula into the free floating field. field; and
17 wherein the free floating field and the table are in a nested relationship.

18
19 27. (Original.) The method of claim 26, wherein the formula edit box initially
20 defaults to a size and shape of the free floating field.

21
22 28. (Original.) The method of claim 26, further comprising resizing the
23 formula edit box as the user enters the formula.

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1 29. (Original.) The method of claim 26, further comprising extending the
2 formula edit box horizontally and subsequently enlarging the formula edit
3 box vertically as the user enters the formula.

4

5 30. (Original.) The method of claim 26, further comprising:
6 presenting at least one table; and
7 enabling a user to reference a cell in the table to add a data value to the
8 formula.

9

10 31. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
11 instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
12 method as recited in claim 26.

13

14 32. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
15 ~~presenting nesting a free floating field within a table; in line with text;~~ and
16 presenting a the table within the a document, wherein the table having has a
17 cell with contents; and
18 enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in
19 the free floating field.

20

21 33. (Original.) The method of claim 32, further comprising, upon modification
22 of the contents in the cell of the table, automatically recalculating the
23 formula in the free floating field.

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1 34. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
2 presenting a free floating field in line with text; and
3 presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with
4 contents;
5 enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in
6 the free floating field; and
7 wherein The method of claim 32, further comprising nesting the free
8 floating field is nested within a cell of the table.

9
10 35. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
11 presenting a free floating field in line with text; and
12 presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with
13 contents;
14 enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in
15 the free floating field; and
16 wherein The method of claim 32, further comprising nesting the table is
17 nested within the free floating field.

18
19 36. (Original.) The method of claim 32, wherein the formula also references a
20 value outside of the table.

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22 37. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
23 instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
24 method as recited in claim 32.

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2 38. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
3 inserting one of a first free floating field or a spreadsheet table in text;
4 in response to user selection of at least a portion of the text or data,
5 automatically creating a second free floating field containing the
6 portion of the text; and
7 creating a reference in the first free floating field or spreadsheet table to the
8 second free floating field. field; and
9 wherein the first free floating field or spreadsheet table is in a nested
10 relationship with second free floating field.

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12
13 39. (Original.) The method of claim 38, further comprising, upon
14 confirmation, displaying the portion of the text in place of the first free
15 floating field.

16
17 40. (Original.) The method of claim 38, further comprising, upon modification
18 of the text in the second free floating field, automatically updating the first
19 free floating field.

20
21 41. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
22 instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
23 method as recited in claim 38.

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1 42. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
2 presenting nesting a free floating field within a table; in-line with text in a
3 document;
4 creating a cell structure to hold one of data or a formula for the free floating
5 field;
6 creating a format structure to hold formatting information for the free
7 floating field;
8 receiving, into the free floating field, user entry of a reference to a source in
9 the document;
10 parsing the user input to update the cell structure and the format structure;
11 in an event the user input causes changes in the cell structure or format
12 structure, updating the cell structure or format structure to produce a
13 new result; and
14 presenting the free floating field with the new result.

15
16 43. (Original.) A computer readable medium having computer-executable
17 instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the
18 method as recited in claim 42.
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1 44. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
2 integrating text and nesting a free floating field within a table within a
3 common document, the free floating field supporting spreadsheet
4 functionality;
5 enabling a user to select a control function to modify or evaluate an aspect
6 of the document; and
7 applying the control function across both the text within a table and the free
8 floating field.

9
10 45. (Original.) The method of claim 44, wherein the control function is
11 selected from a group of functions including formatting, spell checking,
12 grammar checking, find, find and replace, auto-correct, applying document
13 themes, inserting lists, images, drawings, charts, hyperlinks, automatic
14 detection of hyperlinks, and automatic detection of lists.

15
16 46. (Original.) The method of claim 44, wherein the control function is any
17 text feature that can be applied to the text and the applying comprises
18 applying that text feature to the free floating field.

19
20 47. (Currently Amended.) A method comprising:
21 presenting a free floating field in line with text in a table; and
22 number formatting the free floating field independent of the text text; and
23 wherein the free floating field and the table are in a nested relationship.

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1 48. (Currently Amended.) A user interface comprising:
2 a table containing a text entry area that permits entry of individual lines of
3 text; and
4 a free floating field nested within the table residing inline within a line of
5 text, the free floating field presenting content derived from source
6 data or referencing source data such that upon modification of the
7 source data, the free floating field automatically re-derives the
8 content and presents the re-derived content.

9
10 49. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, wherein the content of the free
11 floating field is presented as text when not being edited.

12
13 50. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, wherein the free floating field
14 exhibits a change in appearance when selected for editing.

15
16 51. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, wherein the free floating field
17 contains a formula and the source is a data value.

18
19 52. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, wherein a formula edit box is
20 overlaid on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into
21 the free floating field.

22
23 53. (Original.) The user interface of claim 52, wherein the formula edit box
24 dynamically resizes as the user enters the formula.

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2 54. (Original.) The user interface of claim 52, wherein the formula edit box
3 extends horizontally and subsequently enlarges vertically as the user enters
4 the formula.

5
6 55. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, wherein the free floating field is
7 a first free floating field and further comprising a second free floating field
8 inline within text, the second free floating field presenting content derived
9 from referencing the first free floating field.

10
11 56. (Original.) The user interface of claim 48, further comprising a table with
12 multiple cells, the table having a particular cell that presents content
13 derived from referencing the free floating field.

14
15 57. (Currently Amended.) A user interface comprising:
16 at least one table residing within a document, the table having multiple
17 cells;
18 at least one free floating field nested within the at least one table, inline
19 ~~with text in the document,~~ the free floating field containing a
20 formula that references a cell in the table; and
21 the formula in the free floating field being automatically recalculated upon
22 modification of the cell in the table.

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1 58. (Original.) The user interface of claim 57, wherein the free floating field is
2 a first free floating field and further comprising a second free floating field
3 containing a reference to the first free floating field.

4
5 59. (Currently Amended.) A user interface comprising:
6 at least one table residing within a document, the table having multiple
7 cells;

8 at least one free floating field inline with text in the document, the free
9 floating field containing a formula that references a cell in the table;
10 the formula in the free floating field being automatically recalculated upon
11 modification of the cell in the table; and

12 The user interface of claim 57, wherein the free floating field is nested
13 within a cell of the table.

14
15 60. (Currently Amended.) A user interface comprising:
16 at least one table residing within a document, the table having multiple
17 cells;

18 at least one free floating field inline with text in the document, the free
19 floating field containing a formula that references a cell in the table;
20 the formula in the free floating field being automatically recalculated upon
21 modification of the cell in the table; and

22 The user interface of claim 57, wherein the table is nested within the free
23 floating field.

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1 61. (Original.) The user interface of claim 57, further comprising a formula
2 edit box overlaid on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of the
3 formula.

4

5 62. (Original.) The user interface of claim 57, further comprising multiple
6 tables and multiple free floating fields, at least one of the tables and free
7 floating fields containing a formula that references at least one other of the
8 tables and free floating fields.

9

10 63. (Currently Amended.) An architecture comprising:
11 a user interface to present text and comprising a table within which is
12 nested a free floating field inline with the text within the table;
13 a free floating field component to receive data or a formula entered into the
14 free floating field; and
15 a spreadsheet functionality manager to manage spreadsheet functions for
16 the free floating field.

17

18 64. (Original.) The architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface
19 overlays a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry
20 of a formula.

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1 65. (Original.) The architecture of claim 63, wherein the spreadsheet
2 functionality manager comprises:

3 a cell structure to maintain the data or formula entered into the free floating
4 field; and

5 a format table to maintain formatting information used in the free floating
6 field.

7 66. (Original.) The architecture of claim 63, wherein the free floating field
8 receives a formula, and the spreadsheet functionality manager comprises:

9 a first memory structure to hold source data;

10 a second memory structure to maintain the formula entered into the free
11 floating field, the formula referencing the data in the first memory
12 structure; and

13 a recalculation engine to recalculate the formula in the second memory
14 structure following a change to the data in the first memory
15 structure.

16 67. (Original.) The architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface presents
17 at least one table within the document, and the spreadsheet functionality
18 manager is configured to track references made between the free floating
19 field and the table.

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1 68. (Original.) The architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface presents
2 at least one table within the document, and the spreadsheet functionality
3 manager is configured to track references made between the free floating
4 field and the table, the spreadsheet functionality manager being further
5 configured to update any data and formulas in the table and free floating
6 fields that are affected by a change made to one of the table or the free
7 floating field.

8

9 69. (Currently Amended.) A computer comprising:
10 a memory;
11 a processing unit coupled to the memory; and
12 an architecture stored in the memory and executable on the processing unit
13 to construct and display a document having a free floating field
14 inline with text, nested within a table the free floating field
15 supporting spreadsheet functionality.

16

17 70. (Original.) The computer of claim 69, wherein the free floating field
18 contains a formula that references source data, and upon modification of the
19 source data, the architecture automatically recalculates the formula in the
20 free floating field.

21

22 71. (Original.) The computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture constructs
23 multiple free floating fields within the document, at least one free floating
24 field containing a reference to contents in another free floating field.

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2 72. (Original.) The computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture constructs a
3 table within the document and the free floating field contains a reference to
4 contents in the table.

5
6 73. (Original.) The computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture comprises:
7 a user interface manager to receive user input into the free floating field;
8 and
9 a spreadsheet functionality manager to manage the spreadsheet
10 functionality of the free floating field based on the user input
11 received by the user interface manager.

12
13 74. (Currently Amended.) A computer readable medium having computer-
14 executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors,
15 performs the following:
16 display nest a free floating field in line with text within a table in a
17 document;
18 create a reference, within the free floating field, to at least one source
19 elsewhere in the document; and
20 upon modification of the source, automatically update the free floating
21 field.

22
23 75. (Original.) The computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the source
24 is text and the free floating field references the text.
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2 76. (Original.) The computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the source
3 is a data value and the free floating field contains a formula that references
4 the data value.

5
6 77. (Original.) The computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the free
7 floating field is a first free floating field, and further comprising computer-
8 executable instructions to:

9 display a second free floating field;

10 create a reference, within the second free floating field, to the first free
11 floating field; and

12 upon modification of the source, automatically update the first and second
13 free floating fields.

14
15 78. (Currently Amended.) A computer readable medium having computer-
16 executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors,
17 performs the following:

18 present a free floating field nested within a table and in line with text;

19 receive user-entered formula into the free floating field, the formula
20 referencing at least one data value elsewhere in the document; and

21 upon modification of the data value, automatically recalculate the formula
22 in the free floating field.

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1 79. (Original.) The computer readable medium of claim 78, further comprising
2 computer-executable instructions to overlay a formula edit box on the free
3 floating field to facilitate user entry of the formula into the free floating
4 field.

5
6 80. (Currently Amended.) The computer readable medium of claim 78, further
7 comprising computer-executable instructions to:
8 ~~present a table; and~~
9 create a reference from the free floating field to a cell in the table.

10
11 81. (New.) The method of claim 1, wherein:
12 the source is a cell within a table; and
13 the nested relationship comprises nesting the free floating field within the
14 table.

15
16 82. (New.) The method of claim 1, wherein:
17 the source is a cell within a table; and
18 the nested relationship comprises nesting the table within the free floating
19 field.